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ing propaganda for German culture systematically at home and abroad through moving and stationary pictures upon a national and generally useful basis.' is being backed by the following big capitalists and agriculturists: Gontard, Cuno, Stresemann, Hugenberg, Rosicke, Sahm, Luther, and Stinnes. What this crowd is doing toward stirring up international animosities becomes clear when we look at some of the titles of the scenes presented in the weekly reviews. These include 'Polish Insurgents Shooting Down German Farmers,' 'The Big Four at Work,' 'Red Agitators Gouging Out the Eyes of Regular German Troops' and 'Fresh Acts of Violence by the Entente: Germany Wrecking Her Last Proud Battleship on Orders from Paris.' We think it is high time for Socialist and Republican circles to line up against this militarist incitement of the unsuspecting masses of the people."

The film company attacked by *Die Freiheit* was organized in 1916 with the support of many leading German industrialists and, according to statements made at a general meeting held in Essen last April by its director, Herr Coböken, now has some 600 films at its disposal for "national economic propaganda work." Its output at home and abroad during the last four years was given as more than 5,000,000 meters of film, and the director said its products were going to all parts of the world. This "Deutsche Lichtbild-Gesellschaft" employs 350 persons, and its new plants can turn out about 8,000,000 meters of film a year. The *Kölnische Zeitung* quotes its business manager, ex-Captain Widemann, to the effect that a good film would gradually do away with the prejudice against Germany developed by the World War.

#### ANOTHER SORT OF PICTURE

Some while before, the *Baltimore Sun* printed an article written by "an Englishman living in Germany," which, perhaps, throws light upon the conditions that gave the Royalists and other plotters what they believed to be opportunities. This article shows a social and economic state in Germany that inevitably must harass the Wirth Government and must encourage all that very considerable number of Junkers who seek the re-establishment of the Kaiser's system, and, as some believe, the return of one of the Kaiser's family to the throne.

In part, the article stated:

#### INDIVIDUAL VIEWS

"No one knows what is going to happen, and I should be a fool if I attempted to prophesy." (Prominent banker.)

"Nothing can help Germany, either internally or abroad, until the Treaty of Versailles has been torn up." (Conservative.)

"I am living on my capital, and when that is done I shall blow my brains out." (Retired merchant, who had an equivalent capital of \$500,000 before the war, now worth about \$8,000.)

"We can offer you the goods you want, but we cannot give you a fixed price, nor can we guarantee delivery on dates stated." (Extract from business letter.)

"My factory is running overtime, but I am losing money. The costs of manufacture vary too much. If the mark goes up relative to the dollar, I am ruined." (Manufacturer with regular delivery contracts.)

"My mother has 3,000 marks a month. Of this 700 marks are pension, the remainder is capital." (Statement by hospital nurse.)

"Everything goes, but something has got to change." (Statement by head waiter.)

"Before the war my wife could take a large market basket to market and buy what she wanted with a small purse. Today she takes the money in the market basket and has to have a larger purse to bring back what she is able to purchase with it."

Such are the opinions which I have taken at random from my conversation with various classes of the German people over a period lasting two years, during which I have mixed with all kinds of people from Ludendorf down to the fireman on a tug.

The real truth about this country, so far as I can see it, and I have known the country for 30 years, is that nobody knows in the least what they are doing, what they are going to do, or how they are going to get out of the mess in which they are.

In the same article there is a discussion of fiscal conditions in Germany which is arresting. Generally, in this country, the theory has been that the sooner Germany succeeded in deflating its currency and restoring something like its normal purchasing power, the sooner she would be on the way to dependable financial well-being. But the writer of the article finds many business men in Germany who fear above all things increased purchasing power of the mark.

### WHERE LIE EVILS AND HOPES FOR THE MASSES

In an address before the National Conference of Social Work in Providence, R. I., in the latter part of June, Owen R. Lovejoy, general secretary of the National Child Labor Committee, embodied a review and a forecast in a discussion of social standards for industry. Mr. Lovejoy succeeded in putting into a few crisp paragraphs a number of highly important facts.

In part, he said:

Ten years ago a Committee on Standards of Living and Labor presented to the National Conference of Social Work a series of recommendations as an outline of social standards for industry—a group of standards under which it was believed a nation might hope to live and prosper without imposing injustice or sapping the vitality of any of her children.

#### DEMANDS OF A DECADE AGO

We called upon the people to guarantee, either by the laws of the various States or, if necessary, by Federal act, a minimum wage that should secure a living to all industrial workers, and specifically defined a living wage.

We demanded the adoption of an 8-hour day and 6-day week for all workers and the prohibition of night work to all minors.

We demanded minimum standards of safety and health, including the prohibition of the manufacturing of poisonous articles dangerous to the life of the worker, wherever harmless substitutes were possible.

We demanded the right to a home free from extortionate taxation and from the invasion of industrial manufacture, a home for every family.

We demanded the prohibition from wage-earning occupations of all children under 16 years of age, a reasonable regulation of conditions of employment of women, and social care of the unemployable.

Finally, we demanded some effective system of compensation for industrial accidents, involuntary unemployment, disease, sickness, invalidity, and old age.

Let us not forget that we have just passed through the most significant and dramatic decade in our history, if not, indeed, in this history of human life. The forces at work have been both integrating and disintegrating.

#### EFFECT OF THE WORLD WAR

The world has passed through its stupendous test of trial of battle. An irreparable sacrifice of human life has been laid on the altar of the ancient God of War by the ruthless hand of imperial ambition. National boundaries have been wiped out and drawn anew. Empires that were deemed invulnerable have been shattered, and from their fragments new States have been born. But as yet there is no guarantee that the world cannot again be fooled into an even

greater conflagration. The ancients still rule in the halls of council. Diplomacy is still as secret and sinister as ever. A so-called peace has been projected by the same group that made a mess of the fraternity of nations. War to end war is already regarded as a gruesome joke and the stakes of diplomacy are still the rich but primitive political regions of the earth.

Gigantic appropriations are being voted for imperial projects beyond the dreams of any nation in history. The poor are being bled by burdens of taxation to foot the bills. Almost the entire levy of Federal taxation is for the support of our military and naval establishments.

#### MOVEMENTS FORWARD

During this period we have seen the emergence into political existence of a half of our population—perhaps the better half. Henceforth the women of our nations must be reckoned with in facing our national destinies.

We have seen the most successful business enterprise, perhaps the most gigantic—the business of coining profit from the appetites of weak men—put under the ban. While it is too early to record sweeping conclusions, relief agencies do not hesitate to testify that a trend toward national sobriety is marked and full of promise.

The housing of the people is becoming the recognized duty of a self-respecting nation, and the United States Chamber of Commerce is an example of those agencies that have espoused the cause as a matter of business.

We have seen in State after State attempts to fix a minimum wage, below which industry shall not be allowed to enlist the efforts of human beings.

We have seen an epidemic of unemployment. Men, able-bodied and eager, have walked our streets and ridden our bumpers in search of work. We halt and stagger in grappling with the problem, but at least we no longer ignore it. We have at least discovered that the problem is national, and that no one community can handle it alone; also, that until we learn to develop a relation between an industrial and an agricultural life, we shall continue to throw our whole labor problem out of balance.

We have passed, or perhaps are still passing, through a tragic financial panic, but we no longer regard this as an act of God. We acknowledge our own responsibility, and that is the necessary prelude to a serious attempt to avert such disasters in the future.

#### CHILD LABOR AN ISSUE

We have seen child labor lifted from the debates of the woman's club and the protest of the posts and set forth as a national responsibility. A whole people recognizes that the system injures, not so much the children involved, as the nation itself. It is a game in which every one loses. Efforts to cure the evil have commanded the attention of our national law-makers and two abortive efforts have been made to administer a national treatment.

Finally, we make bold to declare that, in spite of the reactionary forces which still bind us to the past and the self-interest that still works to disintegrate, we are headed forward, and we shall see, or at least pass on to posterity the possibility of seeing, how a nation can actually house and feed and clothe itself without making it the chief and consuming occupation of life and without destroying any of its people or any other people in the process.

#### MR. LOVEJOY REPRESENTATIVE

What Mr. Lovejoy has to say reflects to a very great extent the opinions of many others engaged as he is in constructive effort at Washington and elsewhere. Indubitably, many of these men and women have seen in the events of the last few years evils of incredible proportions, and portents of even worse evils. And yet there is a reviving spirit of hope and of courageous purpose to go on. Under the surface is a feeling akin to that which Secretary Hughes hinted at in an article in this issue of the *ADVOCATE OF PEACE*—a feeling that senses a new era.

## PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE OF ALSACE AND LORRAINE

A while back a reader living in Cleveland communicated with the editor of the *ADVOCATE OF PEACE* respecting an editorial dealing with France. Correspondence followed, with the result that the editor referred certain inquiries to better-informed persons in France. Out of all this emerged items that may enliven interest and thought in the problem of Alsace and Lorraine.

There follows a letter from the editor to the gentleman in Cleveland, under date of June 1:

Some time ago you were kind enough to write us a letter with reference to our editorial entitled "Our Criticism of France." We gathered the impression that you suspected that our utterances were not strictly in accordance with the existing facts, in consequence of which you asked us—

- (1) How often France had invaded Germany since 1650?
- (2) By what right did France take possession of Alsace and parts of Lorraine in the seventeenth century?
- (3) By what right does France occupy Alsace now?
- (4) Why is France not making some headway in repairing the damage caused by the Germans?

We took the liberty of submitting your letter to one of the most intelligent persons in France whom we know. The result is the communication, the translation of which we are sending to you. We know of no better way to answer your questions.

You will understand now why we have delayed in replying to your letter.

We have assumed that you are looking for information. Perhaps it is your desire that your letter and the reply should be printed in the columns of the *ADVOCATE OF PEACE*. We shall be glad to comply with your request if that be it.

We are also enclosing the translation of a self-explanatory article entitled "In French Strasbourg."

Below is given the translation of the article "In French Strasbourg," alluded to in the editor's letter. From the French standpoint it is sufficient proof of the sentiments of the people, and therefore sufficient proof of the justice of French claims. The article follows:

#### IN FRENCH STRASBOURG

By A. Jêze

Lovely Alsace! Sister country ravished by a cruel enemy. Thou appeared more beautiful and impressive after a half century of suffering and captivity.

Strasbourg had decked herself in holiday dress to do honor to the chief of her country. From top to bottom her houses were adorned with flags. Her narrow streets were marvelously decorated with banners of all the Allied nations, on which were laudatory inscriptions of Poincaré and Clemenceau. Garlands and festoons formed triumphal arches. How impressive were those antiquated and faded flags on which one read the sad date 1870! And those, too, in which the blue and the red (rather too bright) revealed in unskilled dyeing the affection of Alsace for France.

Some days before the signing of the armistice, anticipating the overthrow of the Germans, the families of Strasbourg had prepared some French flags, not daring to purchase them direct. They procured some stuffs, running the risk of awakening suspicion in the minds of the shopkeepers, who hated to sacrifice their stocks of bed-linens, and dyed them in the sacred colors. Under cover of night and very secretly, in order not to be denounced by servants of whose loyalty they were none too sure, or neighboring enemies, they assembled bit by bit these red, white, and blue pieces.

That is why on Armistice Day the Germans, turning towards the windows which at first only timidly blossomed forth in French decorations, later were stupefied by daringly